(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to rope in private sector for setting up airports, if so, the details of the joint venture project;

(b) whether Government have already listed architect firms for the design of new projects; and

(c) whether this poses any kind of security risk?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) Yes, Sir. An airport with equity participation from State Government of Kerala, Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs), financial institutions and Non-Resident Indians has been set up at Nedumbassery near Cochin. Airports with private sector participation are being established at Shamshabad near Hyderabad (Andhra Pradesh) and Devanahalli near Bangalore (Karnataka).The two airport projects, have been promoted by the respective State Governments on a joint venture basis with Private Sector Participation. The construction of a new airport in MOPA in Goa has also been approved to be undertaken by the State Government with private sector participation.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) No, Sir, the provision of CNS/ATM services and airport security will continue to remain vested with Airports Authority of India (AAI). In the event of airports having international operations, regulatory functions such as immigration, customs, public health and plant/animal quarantine, would continue to be exercised by Government Regulatory Agencies.

Request for more seats by Emirates

1645. SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Emirates Airlines has requested Government to increase its seats in the Indian sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Emirates in their five year plan for India have proposed for enhancement, in a phased

manner, of their capacity entitlement and access to more Indian ports by 2007.

(c) Increase in traffic rights is considered during bilateral civil aviation consultations in the background of growth in traffic between the two countries based on the principle of reciprocity and mutual advantage.

Regular flights to Kanpur

1646. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) what steps are being taken by Government to provide regular air flights to Kanpur, a commercial city of Uttar Pradesh; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) and (b) Government has laid down Route Dispersal Guidelines with a view to achieve better regulation of air transport services taking into account the need for air transport services of different regions of the country. It is, however, upto the airlines to provide air services to specific places depending upon the traffic demand and commercial viability subject to compliance of Route Dispersal Guidelines issued by Government.

Comprehensive map for development of Civil Aviation

1647. SHRI ABANI ROY:
SHRI R.P. GOENKA:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a comprehensive road map for the development of civil aviation sector is being prepared;

(b) if so, the outline thereof togetherwith its present status;

(c) the details of the areas identified for focussed attention and thrust to make air travel affordable and hassle-free and also to improve the operational efficiency of the aviation industry so as to face competition from the private airlines; and

(d) the steps taken/being taken to ascertain the views of the various concerned interests in formulating the new road map?